

The Journal

OF THE

Royal United Service Institution.

VOL. XXII.

1879.

APPENDIX.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FORTY-EIGHTH ANNIVERSARY MEETING.

THE FORTY-EIGHTH ANNIVERSARY MEETING of the Members was held in the Theatre of the Institution, on Saturday, March 1st, 1879.

FIELD-MARSHAL HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE, K.G., &c., &c., &c., COMMANDING-IN-CHIEF, PRESIDENT OF THE INSTITUTION, IN THE CHAIR.

The CHAIRMAN:—Gentlemen, before we begin the business of the day, I will just explain how it is that I have taken the Chair on this occasion. It was to have been taken by the Secretary of State for War, but there being a Cabinet Council at 12 o'clock, it was impossible for him to attend, and he asked me—if it would not be inconvenient to me—if I would take his place. I could not hesitate for a moment to undertake the duty, and this will explain the reason why you see me in the Chair in his stead.

I. The Secretary read the notice convening the Meeting.

II. The Secretary read the Minutes of the Forty-seventh Anniversary Meeting.

III. The Forty-eighth Annual Report was read as follows:—

1. The Council have the pleasure of laying before the Members their Forty-Eighth Annual Report.

MEMBERS.

2. Forty-one Life Members and One hundred and ninety Annual Subscribers, making a total of Two hundred and thirty-one new Members, joined the Institution during the past year. The loss by death amounted to Ninety-one, and Fifty-five Members withdrew their names, whilst the names of Five have been struck off the list in consequence of the non-payment of their subscriptions for many years, after frequent applications. The increase therefore is Eighty.

A detailed statement of the changes in the List of Members, and a tabular analysis of the present and past state of the Institution, will be found on pages vi and vii.

FINANCE.

3. The usual Abstract of the Yearly Accounts, as audited on the 6th February, will be found on the following page.

ESTIMATE OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR 1879.

EXPENDITURE.			RECEIPTS.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Secretary's Salary and Lodging allowance	400	- -	Balance at Bankers, 31st Dec., 1878	55	- -
Librarian and Accountant's do. ..	240	- -	Annual Subscriptions :		
Clerk's do.	130	- -	£ s. d.		
Servants' Wages	550	- -	At 10s.	230	- -
Ditto Clothing	65	- -	Above 10s.	2,670	- -
Insurance	18	- -		2,900	- -
Ground Rent	205	- -	Entrance Fees	230	- -
Fuel	55	- -	Dividends	400	- -
Lighting	60	- -	Interest on Exchequer Bills	15	- -
Assessed and Income Taxes	65	- -	Government Grant	600	- -
Parish and Water Rates	100	- -	Sale of Journals	135	- -
Artificers, Repairs, &c. ..	250	- -			
Museum	100	- -			
Gold Medal	12	- -			
Library and Topographical Departments	200	- -			
Advertisements	100	- -			
Printing Circulars, & Stationery	200	- -			
Lectures	50	- -			
Journals, including Printing Annual Report and List of Members	1,300	- -			
Postage of Journals	200	- -			
Postage	30	- -			
House Expenses and Sundries	60	- -			
Balance	45	- -			
Total.. ..	£4,335	- -	Total.. ..	£4,335	- -

LIFE SUBSCRIPTIONS AND CAPITAL ACCOUNT.

4. Life Subscriptions to the amount of £363 6s. 3d., including £140 10s. not invested in 1877, have been invested in Three per Cent. Consols, thus raising the funded property of the Institution on the 1st January, 1879, to £12,091 6s. 10d.

THE FUTURE LOCALITY OF THE INSTITUTION.

5. The Council regret that they are still unable to give the Members any information on this subject. They do not, however, anticipate that any change will take place during the present year.

LECTURES AND JOURNAL.

6. During the past year, twenty-four lectures were delivered, and thirteen papers were read in the Theatre of the Institution. The Council record their best thanks to those gentlemen who afforded so much valuable professional information.

The Garrison Instructor of the Home District also delivered six lectures on "Out Post" and other duties, in the Theatre of the Institution to the Officers of the Auxiliary Forces of his District; these lectures were very fully attended.

The high character of the Journal has been maintained, and it has had a large circulation both at home and abroad, the sale having been the highest recorded in any year except 1873.

An Index to Vols. XI—XX inclusive has been recently issued.

LIBRARY.

7. Four hundred and fifty volumes were added to the Library during the past year; of these, two hundred and fifty were purchased and the remainder presented. Among the latter, the following are the most noteworthy:—

By the AUSTRIAN Government—

Mittheilungen über Gegenstände des Artillerie- und Genie-Wesens.
Mittheilungen aus dem Gebiete des See-wesens.
Organ des Wiener Militär-wissenschaftlichen Vereins.

By the FRENCH Government—

Revue Maritime et Coloniale.
„ *Militaire de l'Étranger.*

By the GERMAN Government—

Archiv für die Artillerie- und Ingenieur-Offiziere des Deutschen Reichsheeres.
Jahrbücher für die Deutsche Armee und Marine.
Militär-Literatur-Zeitung.
Neue Militärische Blätter.

By the NETHERLANDS Government—

Plates of "Matériel de l'Artillerie."

By the RUSSIAN Government—

Engineering Journal.
Naval Review.

By the SWEDISH Government—

Krigs-Vetens-Kaps Akademiens Handlingar.

By the UNITED STATES Government—

Twenty-two Volumes, including the Reports of the Secretary of the Navy, the Chief of Ordnance, and the Chief of Engineers, with sundry Maps and Charts.

The exchange of Journals with Foreign Governments, and with several Scientific Societies in this and other Countries, has been continued.

The Library now contains 18,750 volumes.

The Institution is indebted to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, and to the Secretaries of State for War and for India, who have presented various works issued by their departments.

MUSEUM.

8. By the arrangement contemplated in last year's report, additional space has been obtained in the Gun-Model Room, and some Models of Gun Carriages have been purchased. A list of the additions to the Museum, and to the Library will be found in the Proceedings of this day's Meeting, and in the Appendix to Vol. XXII of the Journal.

VICE-PATRON.

9. The Council have had the pleasure of electing the Right Honourable Lord Hampton, G.C.B., a Vice-Patron of the Institution.

VICE-PRESIDENTS.

10. The Council regret to record the death of one of the Vice-Presidents of the Institution, Admiral Sir George Back, D.C.L., F.R.S., &c., &c.

Sir George Back became a Member of the Institution in 1833, was elected a Member of Council in 1845, and a Vice-President in the same year.

The Council have elected as a Vice-President of the Institution Lieut.-General Stephenson, C.B., who has for several years filled the offices of Chairman and Vice-Chairman of Council.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

11. The Council have admitted several Officers of Foreign Armies as Honorary Members during their stay in this country.

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS OF COUNCIL.

12. On the 1st January, 1879, there were 309 Corresponding Members of Council.

Whilst thanking the Corresponding Members for their past services, the Council earnestly invite them to renewed exertions towards obtaining for the Institution a more extended support from the Officers of H.M.'s Services.

GOLD MEDAL.

13. Twelve Essays were received in competition for the Gold Medal, the subject being "Field Intrenching; its Application on the Battle-Field, and its Bearing on Tactics." Lieut.-General Sir Henry Lefroy, K.C.M.G., R.A.; Colonel Sir Lumley Graham, Bart.; and Colonel H. Schaw, R.E., kindly undertook the duties of Referees. Their award will be made known to this Meeting.

The subject for the Naval Essay for this year is—

"Naval Tactics on the open sea, with the existing types of vessels and weapons."

The competition is now thrown open to all persons eligible to become Members of the Institution.

CONCLUSION.

In conclusion, the Council point with satisfaction to the increase in the number of Members, to the sound condition of the finances, and to the high estimation in which the Institution is held, both at home and abroad.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES AMONG THE MEMBERS SINCE
1st JANUARY, 1878.

	Life.	Annual.	Total.
Number of Members, 31st December, 1877 ..	1,177	3,228	4,405
" " joined during 1878 ..	41	190	231
	1,218	3,418	4,636
Changed from Annual to Life	+10	-10	
	1,228	3,408	4,636
	Life.	Annual.	
Deduct—Deaths during 1878 ..	28	63	
Withdrawals..	..	55	
Struck off ..	..	5	
	28	123	
	28	123	151
Number of Members on 1st January, 1879	1,200	3,285	4,485

TABULAR ANALYSIS OF THE STATE OF THE INSTITUTION

To 31st of December, 1878.

Year. 1st Jan. to 31st Dec.	Annual Subs. received.	En- trance Fees.	Income (from all sources).	Life Subs. received.	Amount of Stock.	Invested in the purchase of Books, &c.	No. of Vols. in Library.	No. of Mem- bers on the 31st Dec.	Number of Visitors
£	£	£	£	£	£	£			
1831	654	..	654	1,194	..	..	..	1,437	..
1832	1,146	..	1,146	973	..	..	..	2,699	..
1833	1,405	..	1,450	692	..	..	..	3,341	..
1834	1,500	..	1,549	583	1,100	..	..	3,748	13,376
1835	1,480	..	1,574	366	2,430	40	..	4,155	8,537
1836	1,570	..	1,682	330	3,747	45	..	4,069	8,521
1837	1,549	..	1,747	222	4,747	180	..	4,164	10,907
1838	1,462	..	1,634	230	5,500	246	..	4,175	15,788
1839	1,399	..	1,565	168	5,500	292	..	4,186	16,248
1840	1,363	..	1,525	198	5,500	446	5,500	4,257	17,120
1841	1,450	..	1,643	186	6,000	243	5,850	4,243	19,421
1842	1,373	..	1,565	144	6,400	373	6,450	4,127	21,552
1843	1,299	..	1,494	140	6,700	237	7,000	4,078	27,056
1844	1,274	..	1,408	112	3,000	298	7,850	3,968	22,767
1845	1,313	..	1,466	228	1,500	127	8,160	3,988	21,627
1846	1,298	..	1,456	138	1,500	74	8,410	4,031	32,885
1847	1,314	74	1,502	132	1,700	37	..	4,017	38,699
1848	1,175	57	1,375	48	1,700	85	9,641	3,947	37,140
1849	1,176	72	1,375	84	1,150	58	..	3,970	33,333
1850	1,141	106	1,294	198	600	36	..	3,998	33,773
1851	1,136	131	1,292	66	666	34	10,150	3,188	52,173
1852	1,134	133	1,281	114	200	43	10,300	3,078	20,609
1853	1,243	319	1,684	264	528	41	10,420	3,251	25,952
1854	1,200	138	1,368	126	612	95	10,587	3,171	22,661
1855	1,159	107	1,289	120	653	55	10,780	3,131	14,778
1856	1,216	197	1,519	156	761	47	10,832	3,204	16,184
1857	1,258	176	1,937	78	1,038	40	10,960	3,168	12,755
1858	1,318	221	2,102	105	438	31	11,062	3,246	25,747
1859	1,526	195	2,277	512	946	70	11,320	3,344	28,739
1860	1,961	298	3,577	397	2,178	114	11,517	3,518	28,011
1861	2,122	305	2,899	266	2,846	99	11,812	3,689	23,296
1862	2,296	242	3,127	239	3,178	109	12,026	3,797	27,215
1863	2,379	218	3,100	405	3,583	143	12,296	3,847	18,150
1864	2,425	215	3,253	222	4,516	116	12,700	3,902	17,276
1865	2,435	154	3,467	235	4,804	137	13,000	3,895	18,253
1866	2,435	157	3,488	299	5,486	150	13,337	3,891	17,067
1867	2,431	141	3,467	208	5,732	140	13,800	3,823	17,211
1868	2,446	184	3,534	297	6,396	119	14,100	3,812	16,417
1869	2,368	165	3,485	233	6,653	232	14,660	3,792	15,947
1870	2,376	178	3,493	333	7,313	140	15,055	3,831	18,654
1871	2,455	237	3,677	538	7,748	202	15,501	3,922	19,420
1872	2,620	336	4,111	713	8,927	192	15,761	4,116	19,773
1873	2,776	295	4,316	535	9,465	222	16,227	4,276	18,183
1874	2,819	216	4,491	409	10,189	218	16,624	4,330	16,771
1875	2,801	154	4,595*	469	10,721	228	17,000	4,308	15,960
1876	2,794	162	4,500	437	11,305	171	17,700	4,320	15,543
1877	2,840	218	4,750	526	11,725	217	18,300	4,405	15,682
1878	2,881	231	4,700	459	12,091	231	18,750	4,485	17,881

* A legacy of £100 was received this year.

IV. General Sir LINTORN SIMMONS, K.C.B., R.E.—

Your Royal Highness and Gentlemen,—I have great pleasure in moving the adoption of the Report, and I will occupy your time but a very few minutes in making such observations as have occurred to me on its perusal. First, I would observe that it appears that the Institution is progressing favorably, though gradually. It is rather remarkable, as regards the number of Members, that in 1840 they were nearly as numerous as they are now. The numbers fell in 1852, just before the Crimean War, to a minimum of 3,000, but for the last seven or eight years there has been a steady and gradual increase. This is satisfactory, but the increase is not to the extent which the Institution has a right to expect; this is probably due to the advantages which it affords to Members not been thoroughly understood and appreciated by those who have not the honor of being Members of the Institution. On looking through the accounts, I see the large sum of £1,700 was expended last year on the Journal of the Institution and in distributing it to its Members. Of this sum, £230 were expended in postage. Now, Gentlemen, I think it is a very liberal proceeding on the part of the Council of this Institution to distribute their Journal—which is every year becoming more and more valuable—free of all cost to its Members, not only in England but throughout the world. This is done at a large cost, and I can hardly imagine that it is generally known to persons who are not Members that this is one of the advantages of the Institution. And when it is considered that the Journal contains Papers and Lectures that have been given in this room by such distinguished Gentlemen as those who took the trouble, at the request of the Council, to lecture during the past year, I am much surprised that this Journal has not a more extended circulation. Amongst these names were, Admirals Fishbourne, Lord Dunsany and Hamilton, Generals Hamley and Sir Frederick Goldsmid, and Colonels Clive, of the Guards, and Malleson; we also had the advantage of a lecture from Mr. Brassey, Lieut.-Commandant of the Naval Artillery Volunteers, and lately from Captain Templer, of the Militia, on the subject of ballooning. We have, besides, had the advantage of listening to one of the members of the Manufacturing Departments of the Arsenal. When these lectures are considered, and the discussions which have taken place upon them, the Journal becomes a really valuable document, and the small subscription to the Institution of £1 a year is, in my humble opinion, amply repaid by the liberality of the Council in circulating this Journal. I would next observe, that there is one point which has been alluded to in the Report, from which it appears that the Institution is in some little uncertainty as to its future, and that is the position in which we stand as regards a house. We are still only quarterly tenants of this building, and, therefore, liable to be turned out at short notice. I believe there has been some sort of undertaking on the part of the Government not to be hard upon us, but, it is very desirable, if we could, that we should get a permanent location in this metropolis. In mentioning the lectures, I forgot to refer to a peculiar feature in the last year, which was that this lecture room was lent by the Council for the benefit of instruction to Officers of the Auxiliary Forces in London, and that half a dozen lectures were given in this room by the Instructor of the Home District, which were well attended by Officers of the Auxiliary Forces. I do not know that there is any other particular point to which I need draw your attention, but, on the whole, I think the Members have every reason to congratulate the Council on the success of their proceedings during the last year, and I therefore have much pleasure in moving “That the Report now read be adopted and printed for circulation among the Members.”

Admiral Sir COOPER KEY, K.C.B. :—

I beg to second the Resolution proposed by Sir Lintorn Simmons, that the Report be adopted and circulated. The Report itself is very concise, and requires no assistance from me to induce you to accept it, neither does it need any additional argument to prove that the Institution is progressing in a very satisfactory

manner. I thoroughly concur in the remarks that have fallen from Sir Lintorn Simmons as to the great value of the Journal, and I am surprised that more Officers, both of the Army and Navy, do not avail themselves of the privileges afforded to Members by this Institution, of obtaining the Journal at so small a cost. The number certainly increases but slowly. I can testify, from my own experience, to the great interest taken in the Journal by Officers on the North American and West Indian Stations. Whenever it came out, it was eagerly sought for, and we who received it, endeavoured to persuade those who were anxious to read it that they ought to become subscribers; and, no doubt, some did join the Institution for that reason. As I have said, it was eagerly sought after and read, for I may say that this Institution stands alone in laying before the Officers of the Army and Navy, scientific instruction in the art of war. I do not mean that you do much scientific work in its highest sense, but a large amount of practical science which is of so much value to Officers of both Services. I thoroughly agree with what Sir Lintorn Simmons has pointed out as to the very limited accommodation we have here. We constantly see this Theatre overcrowded with people wishing to hear the interesting lectures here delivered; and the Museum is also so full that there is no space to arrange the collection properly, or to dispose of articles which are offered for our acceptance. I heard only this morning of a large model gun that an inventor wishes to present to the Institution, but we do not know where it can be placed. Then we have a very valuable Library of professional works for both Services, and for which we are similarly getting cramped for room. But of all the good works carried out by this Institution I must speak most strongly of the lectures and papers that are read in this Theatre. It is another striking instance of what we ought to be proud of in this country, the vast amount of *unpaid* work done by English people of all classes. This is a noble illustration of it, and I hope it may long continue. I beg to second the Resolution.

V. The names of the eight Members retiring from the Council by rotation were read as follows:—

Colonel H. HUME, C.B.

Colonel E. CLIVE.

General Sir RICH. WILBRAHAM, K.C.B.

General Sir EDWARD HODGE, K.C.B.

Colonel W. H. GOODENOUGH, R.A.

Colonel T. D. BAKER, C.B.

Colonel LORD ELOHO, M.P.

Rear-Admiral SELWYN.

General SCHOMBERG, C.B., R.M.A.:—

Your Royal Highness and Gentlemen,—It is not necessary that I should detain you by enlarging on the advantages of this Institution, but since entering its walls to-day, a Memo. has been placed in my hands stating that Captain Hildyard of the 71st Highlanders won the Medal of the Statistical Society for an Essay on "The Effects of Health and Disease on Military and Naval operations." Now, independently of the knowledge which he acquired in the Service, without which book-knowledge is not worth much, he worked entirely from the books in the Library. I think Officers should know of the very useful library that is at their disposal here—that whenever they have any military question on which they wish to write or speak, the book-work can be got here. I say book-work, because without practical knowledge I am quite certain books are of no use whatever. A few years ago, we Officers were accused very much of being ignorant of our profession. I do not think it was just then; there were many of us who did the best we could. Now it certainly would not be true, and there is no excuse for its being true, for the greatest pains is taken in instructing Officers, and, from my knowledge of them, I am perfectly certain, if you will take the trouble to teach them, they will learn, and do everything their country can require of them. The Resolution I have to move is, "That the thanks of this Meeting be given to the Members of the Council who retire by rotation, and that the following Members be elected to fill the vacancies":—

Colonel E. CLIVE,
Colonel W. H. GOODENOUGH, R.A., } For re-election.
Rear-Admiral J. H. SELWYN,

Colonel Sir FRANCIS W. FESTING, K.C.M.G., C.B.,
Admiral Sir COOPER KEY, K.C.B., F.R.S.,
Rear-Admiral R. VESEY HAMILTON, C.B.,
Vice-Admiral Sir FRANCIS L. MCCLINTOCK, F.R.S.,
Colonel Sir LUMLEY GRAHAM, Bart.

for immediate election. And that the following names be adopted from which to select in case of vacancies occurring in the Council, viz. :—

Rear-Admiral E. HARDINGE, C.B. Major-General G.W.A. HIGGINSON, C.B.

Lieutenant-Colonel HENRY B. LOCH, C.B. :—

I have great pleasure in seconding the Resolution which has just been moved, and I only wish it had been placed in the hand of one more able to attend the lectures and meetings of this Institution than I am, but I am sure, from the Report which has been read, and the remarks of the Mover and Seconder of the first Resolution, it is evident that the thanks of this Meeting are due to the Members of the Council who retire by rotation. I have the honour, therefore, to second the Resolution that has been moved.

The Resolution was put from the Chair, and was carried unanimously.

Rear-Admiral R. V. HAMILTON, C.B. :—

I rise to move the third Resolution, viz., "That the thanks of this Meeting be given to the Auditors for their valuable services, and that the following Gentlemen be elected for the ensuing year," viz. :—

Captain J. E. A. DOLBY,—for re-election. T. E. DRAPER, Esq.
T. G. RIDGWAY, Esq., E. R. RAITT, Esq.

I am sure you will all agree with me that the services which those Gentlemen have rendered are most essential to the well-being of the Institution, I therefore, beg to propose that they receive our best thanks.

The Resolution, having been seconded by Sir LUMLEY GRAHAM, was carried unanimously.

VII. The Secretary read the Report of the Referees on the Military Prize Essay, on "Field Intrenching; its Application on the Battle Field, and its Bearing on Tactics," and the Chairman announced the name of the successful candidate to be Captain Emilius Clayton, R.A., Professor of Military History, Royal Military Academy, Woolwich.

His Royal Highness, the President, on presenting the Medal, said :—

I have great pleasure in presenting you with the Medal on this occasion. It is very highly creditable to yourself, from every point of view, and considering the great merit of the Essays generally, it is all the more creditable to the Gentleman who, in the estimation of very able men, is entitled to the prize.

Admiral Sir FREDERICK NICOLSON, Bart., C.B., Chairman of the Council :—

Your Royal Highness and Gentlemen,—I have on the part of the Council to offer an explanation of the course which they have thought it desirable to take on this special occasion. You have heard that the Referees, in the exercise of their very difficult and delicate duties, have been unable to award the Gold Medal to that

Essay which they have stated to be the one first on the list, because, unfortunately the writer of that Essay had very greatly exceeded the limit of the 48 printed pages, to which the Essays should have been confined. In these circumstances, the Council have thought it desirable to consider what course should be pursued with regard to the writer of the Essay, which, though first in order of merit, yet unfortunately cannot receive the Medal in the opinion of the Referees. A special Meeting of the Council was therefore called, and the following Resolution was adopted:—"In consideration of the high character of the Essay No. 477, 'non sine pulvere,' and the special circumstances under which the writer has failed to obtain the Gold Medal, bearing in mind the difficulty of estimating accurately the quantity of printed matter in a manuscript, as well as the fact that the Council have increased the limit from 48 to 64 printed pages for the next Prize Essay; the Council have decided to give a second Gold Medal on this occasion." I am desired by the Council to state, in the most emphatic manner, that this liberal view of theirs is not to be regarded as a precedent for the future. They feel that having extended the 48 to 64 pages of printed matter of the Journal, as announced in the Circular which was published on 1st January last, long before this question arose, they have gone to the very farthest point to which they can allow future competitors to extend their Essays, and therefore they trust that this special question will not arise again; but looking to all the circumstances of the case, I trust that the Members here present, and our Members at large, will agree that we have not done wrong in treating the matter in this liberal way. I may also state that we have received a letter from the War Office, stating that for the future the name of Officers, who are successful in obtaining our Gold Medal, will be placed in a page of the Army List. I do not doubt the Admiralty, following that good example, will do the same as regards the Naval Essays. With these few words, I will ask your Royal Highness to announce to the Meeting the name of the writer of the Essay No. 477.

The Chairman :—The Writer is Major T. Fraser, R.E.

The Secretary then read the names of the writers of the four Essays, honourably mentioned, viz., Lieut. Reginald Porter, R.E.; Major-General Cunningham Robertson, C.B.; Capt. Elsdale, R.E.; and Lt.-Col. Harrison, R.E.

Admiral the Rt. Hon. Sir JOHN HAY, Bart., C.B., M.P., &c., &c.

I rise to move the thanks of the Meeting to the three distinguished Officers, Sir Henry Lefroy, Sir Lumley Graham, and Colonel Schaw, for the trouble and attention they have bestowed on the many excellent papers which have been written by those who have competed for the Gold Medal which your Royal Highness has just bestowed on Captain Clayton. I am sorry to see that my distinguished friend, Sir Henry Lefroy, is not here to-day to receive in person the thanks which will be gladly offered to him. All who know him know what ability and painstaking labour Sir Henry Lefroy bestows on any subject submitted to him, and I feel sure his colleagues, Sir Lumley Graham (who is here), and Colonel Schaw, formed a tribunal which has given a sense of justice and security to their decision. Some disappointment may naturally be felt by the officer whose paper would have taken the Medal if its length had not transgressed our rules. I may, however, be permitted to say that condensation is a great virtue; and that in papers to be studied by Officers in the field and at sea, a short paper, bringing the whole of the merits of the case before the eye in a short space, is far more valuable than a paper fuller in its details, but not so available for rapid and immediate instruction. I quite approve, however, of the course taken by the Council, and I congratulate Major Fraser on receiving a second medal which, I am well assured, his paper has deserved. With these few remarks I desire to invite the Members present to thank Sir Henry Lefroy, Sir Lumley Graham, and Colonel Schaw, for the excellent manner in which they have discharged the laborious task allotted to them.

Lieut. General C. P. B. WALKER, C.B. :—

I have very great pleasure in seconding this Resolution. Having had a good deal of literary work to do in my day, and particularly in correcting and reading through voluminous documents, I am perfectly aware what a troublesome business it is to adjudicate on a matter of this kind ; but I think the Council could hardly, in the exercise of their discretion, have chosen three better men. Sir Henry Lefroy is a man most distinguished for his scientific attainments, and his knowledge on all scientific questions connected with Artillery. A keener and better soldier than Sir Lumley Graham we had not in the service, and Colonel Schaw's name I have only to mention, to mark his high value as an Officer of Engineers. These three having combined together, have come to a decision which must be accepted with readiness and cheerfulness by everybody ; I have, therefore, the greatest pleasure in seconding the Resolution.

Sir F. NICOLSON :—

Before Sir Lumley Graham rises to reply, it is desirable that I should read a letter which the Secretary has received from Sir Henry Lefroy. He says (having important business elsewhere), "Had I been present, I should have taken the opportunity to congratulate the Council on the marked ability of many of the competitive Essays, and the evidence they afford of the extension of professional study among the Officers, I suppose chiefly junior officers, of the Army, to which their Gold Medal is a stimulus. I should also express my entire concurrence in the decision the Council has come to with regard to an Extra Medal to the author of the Essay "Non sine Fulvere." Sir Lumley Graham intends to be present and will, no doubt, say all that is proper on the part of the Referees."

The Resolution was then put from the Chair, and was carried unanimously.

Colonel Sir LUMLEY GRAHAM, Bart. :—

I shall bear in mind what Sir John Hay has just said, that brevity is very much to be commended on all occasions ; therefore, I will trouble you with very few words. I thank Sir John Hay and General Walker, who seconded the Resolution, for the handsome terms in which they spoke of myself, and those associated with me, in the duty that the Council called upon us to perform. I, as one of the three, had the great benefit of being associated with Sir Henry Lefroy and Colonel Schaw, both highly instructed and scientific officers, and therefore my part was comparatively easy. I may say it was a work of great interest to me, reading the Essays of the gentlemen who competed ; a great many of them were very well worth reading indeed, and I may say I learned a great deal from them. I learned a great many things that I never knew before, and I was impressed very much by the great knowledge displayed, which has been gained by Officers of the Army in late years. I am sure, when I joined the Army, 32 years ago, there were not half a dozen Officers who could have written the Essays produced on this occasion. I was delighted to find that those who are now in the Service are rising to such a high pitch of scientific knowledge. I beg leave to return thanks on the part of myself and my associates, for the handsome manner in which you have acknowledged our labours.

The CHAIRMAN :—

The business of the Meeting is now concluded, but I understand it is usual that the Chairman should add a few words. Those words on my part will be very few, because really the speakers who have addressed you on the several Resolutions which have been placed before you, have said everything that could be said as

regards the present position, and the advantages of this very valuable Institution. Therefore, as far as I am concerned I have only to say, I hope it may continue to prosper as it has hitherto done, and especially that the interest taken in it throughout the two Services may greatly increase. On that point, I confess I should like to see an improvement. No doubt, it has more subscribers than it had in former years, but at the same time I cannot help thinking that it deserves more support, especially among the younger Officers of the Services, for to them an Institution of this kind must be of the greatest possible advantage. It has been already stated that the Library of this Institution is extremely valuable, containing as it does 18,000 volumes, comprising the best works on the professional questions of the two Services. There is consequently here a place of reference for young Officers who are fond of their profession, and who look scientifically at it, which they could not find anywhere else, and that alone, I should hope, would induce them to become subscribers in much larger numbers. The subscription is extremely small, it could not affect the pocket of any man, and need be no obstacle in the way of any Officer joining the Institution. Under these circumstances, I sincerely trust that the advice given by one or two speakers will be followed, and that whilst the Services take an interest in the valuable Journal, which is now largely and liberally circulated at the expense of the Institution, they may also subscribe to its funds, so that it may receive the support of those who take a real interest in the Service with which they are more immediately connected. I have explained why I am here to-day. I believe this Chair is generally occupied, either by the First Lord of the Admiralty, or by the Secretary of State for War, and, as Members of the Cabinet, those Gentlemen can say what the Government intends or does not intend to do, with reference to supporting this Institution. In spirit, I know that the Government gives it every support; of course, I cannot speak with the confidence of a Cabinet Minister, indeed, I know nothing as to what the intentions are, with regard to the place of our meeting at present. Personally, I sincerely hope we shall not be turned out. I admit that it would be very advantageous if we had a little more space, as has been alluded to by one of the speakers, for I understand that there is a big gun which cannot at present find space in our hall. That is of course a great disadvantage, but at the same time I cannot help thinking that there is a great advantage in the locality in which we are here situated, viz., that it is easy of access. I have one advantage in taking the Chair in not being a Member of the Government, and that is, that I can frankly say, that I sincerely hope that we shall remain here, and shall be allowed to continue our Meetings on this spot; but at the same time, in saying so, I speak only as an individual Member, knowing no more about it than any one of those Gentlemen whom I see around me at the present moment. As regards the value of these Essays, there can be no two opinions that the course adopted by the Council in inviting Essays upon such subjects, tends to open the intellects of the competitors, and to call attention to subjects of great professional value. I observe with no surprise that the scientific branch of the Service has carried away the palm in every direction. They naturally ought to do so, and I am glad to see they do so. It is only reasonable to expect it, and we expect to see the palm given to those Officers who are connected with the scientific branches of the Service. At the same time, I cannot help feeling that it is open to all to enter into the competition, and therefore, no one can object to the fact that the scientific branches have had the advantage, where real science and merit ought and does naturally tell in a competitive matter of this kind. As regards the conclusion, arrived at by the Council, I am delighted to hear that their view as regards a double medal, for I can call it nothing else, on this occasion has been accepted, and I believe generally approved of. I quite think that one of the merits of these papers is that they should not be too lengthy, for anything more unfortunate than very lengthy papers I cannot conceive. There is no one who has the misfortune to be compelled to wade through more public documents, of various kinds in the course of the year, than myself, and I can only say, that, if I can get a short paper and can find the pith of the matter expressed in few words, it is very much more acceptable to the reader, and I think very much more valuable in itself, than a very lengthy document, where you have to consider a great deal as to what really is the meaning of all that has been said,

XIV PROCEEDINGS OF THE FORTY-EIGHTH ANNIVERSARY MEETING.

I do not in the least wish to detract from the merits of the longer paper, which has received the Second Medal, but I am quite sure it is a great advantage that these papers should not be too extended; and therefore, I cannot but think that those who had to adjudge the prize were prudent, judicious and wise, in coming to the conclusion they arrived at, while, at the same time they gave full credit and advantage to the other paper which, no doubt, though I have not personally seen it, is full of merit, knowledge, and scientific information. Gentlemen, I see with pleasure that the general condition of the Institution is all that we could wish; there is no debt, there is a considerable amount of surplus, not large, but still sufficient to lead us to look forward with hope to the future. You have afforded every facility for the delivery of lectures, which become so much more essential from day to day, and if we wish in any respect to keep pace with our neighbours, with other countries, professionally, or if we wish to keep our relative position with all those Civil Institutions which abound, in this country especially, and in all countries, it is necessary that we should keep ourselves before the public, in a manner creditable to ourselves, and I believe to the Services which we represent. I hope the Institution will therefore become invigorated year by year; and if it receives the support it does from those I see now around me, and which I have often observed with pleasure, when I have come here to preside on occasions like the present, or when lectures have been given, and if, as I said before, it is taken advantage of more largely by the Junior Members of our relative professions, then I think we may look forward with the fullest confidence to the continued prosperity and usefulness of the Royal United Service Institution.

Admiral STOPFORD :—

I have very great pleasure, as an Admiral, in proposing "That the cordial thanks of this Meeting be given to Field Marshal His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge for his kindness in taking the Chair on the present occasion."

General STEPHENSON, C.B. :—

I have great pleasure in seconding the Resolution. It is hardly necessary for me to refer to the great interest his Royal Highness has invariably shown in the proceedings of this Institution, but, if any such proof were necessary, I should merely have to refer to the kindness his Royal Highness has shown to us on this occasion by taking the Chair, at very short notice, amidst the extreme pressure of business at the present time.

Sir FREDERICK NICOLSON :—

I feel it a very great honour, as the concluding act of my year of office as Chairman of the Council, to convey, as I am sure the Meeting will enable me to do, our most cordial thanks to your Royal Highness.

NAMES OF MEMBERS

WHO JOINED THE INSTITUTION BETWEEN THE 14TH SEPTEMBER
AND THE 31ST DECEMBER, 1878.

LIFE.

Simpson, A. H., Lieut. R.A.
Marshall, Lionel, Lieut. 20th Regt.
Malleson, G. B., C.S.I., Col. Bengal S.
Corps.
Henriques, E. N., Lieut. R.A.
Wales, N. Y. A., Major Otago Rifle
Vols.
Holdich, T. Hungerford, Capt. R.E.

Donaldson, John, Esq., C.E., late En-
gineer I.N.
Jones, Walter P., Capt. R.E.
May, Henry J., Lieut. R.N.
Hatherell, James, Major Scottish Bor-
derers Militia.
Godley, W. A., Major late 56th Regt.
Wilson, J. E. M., Capt. R.N.

ANNUAL.

Wallace, W. E., Lt.-Col. late 18th Roy.
Irish Regt.
Thomas, W. G., Capt. 25th Regt.
Walker, G. R., Major R.E.
Macrae, H. R., Capt. Queen's Edinb.
Rifle Vols.
Creagh, A. M., Capt. 42nd Highlanders.
Fryer, John, Lt.-Col. 6th Dragoon Gds.
Holden, Robert, Lieut. Worcester Mil.
Daniell, J. Townshend, Lt.-Col. late
Indian Army.
Dixon, G. W., Lieut. 16th Middx. Rifle
Vols.
Furse, G. A., Major 42nd Highlanders.
Murray, S., Capt. R.A.
Grove, C., Capt. 15th Regt.
Bryans, J. W., Capt. late 22nd Bombay
Native Infantry.
Bell, C. E., Lieut. R.N.
Beaufort, Francis, Lieut. R.A.
Guyon, H. J., Lt.-Col. late Beng. Army.
Furley, John, Capt. late Kent Rifle
Vols.
Molyneux, R. H. M., Capt. R.N.
Templer, J. G. E., Lieut. 74th High-
landers.
Olpherts, William, W.C., C.B., Lt.-Gen.
R.A.
Stevenson, N., Col. 87th Regt.

Lee, J. Stirling, Lieut. 13th Middx. Rifle
Vols.
Cole, A. Lowry, C.B., Col. 17th Regt.
Phillips, T., Col. 18th Hussars.
Vernon, Granville, Capt. 16th Regt.
Clench, E. Payton, Lieut. late Lond.
Art. Vols.
Lewisham, Lord, Capt. 27th Staff. Rifle
Vols.
Hutchinson, G., C.B., C.S.I., Maj.-Gen.
Unattached.
Prater, C. G., Lieut. R.N.
Daniell, E. L., Lieut. late 2nd Queen's
Royal Regt.
Merewether, G. L. C., Major R.E.
Foster, Chas. J., C.B., Maj.-Gen. Unatt.
Walker, E. B., Capt. East Kent Mil.
Hewlett, T. G., C.I.E., Surgeon-Major
Bombay Army.
Goodwyn, J. E., Capt. 30th Regt.
Coleman, C. E. A., Lieut. 2nd West
India Regt.
Hamilton, J. B., Lieut. Lon. Scottish
Rifle Vols.
Bell, H. W. B., Lieut.-General R.E.
Goulbourn, Henry, Lieut. Gren. Gds.
Lloyd, Francis, Lieut. Gren. Guards.
Warrender, John, Lieut. Gren. Guards.
St. Aubyn, John T., Lieut. Gren. Gds.

ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY AND MUSEUM DURING 1878.

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Where London is the place of Publication, the word London is omitted.

Where no size of Volume is mentioned, the Work is in 8vo.

Where no date is mentioned, 1878 is the year of publication.

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Col. Walker.

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6. War between Russia and Turkey (Vote of Credit)—Estimate for 1877-78.
12. Estimates for the Year 1878-79 (with Index).
13. Indian Home Charges—Estimate of Sum to be voted in aid of Army Estimates for 1878-79.
34. Royal Artillery, Non-commissioned Officers—Return relating to.
38. Colonies — Statements showing Amounts included in the Estimates for.
39. Purchase Commission—Appropriation Account for 1876-77.
41. Variation of Numbers, &c.—Statement and Explanations respecting.
52. National Debt (Military Savings Bank)—Account to 5 January, 1878.
80. 1877-78, Supplementary Estimate.
81. Appropriation Account and Statement of Surpluses and Deficits for 1876-77.
91. War Office (Charges defrayed on Account of India)—Appropriation Account for 1876-77.
121. Military Forces Localisation—Account for 1876-77.
137. Manufacturing Establishments—Accounts for 1876-77.
163. Military Savings Banks—Account for 1876-77.
182. Weekly Wage—Return showing, for a Private Soldier in the Royal Horse Artillery, the Life and Horse Guards, &c.
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at Donchery, where the Emperor
Napoleon III. and Prince Bismarck
met after the Battle of Sedan.

Lt.-Gen. C. P. B. Walker, C.B.

Backplate of the French Captain Du-
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by a bullet which pierced his Cuirass.

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A Coat of Mail, made from the fibre of
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the wooden arrows.

A War Mace, the most formidable
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it to a log of wood, four feet long, and
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- A Basket, containing a Piece of a Cannon Shot. This Basket was on the Cabin-Table of Admiral Sir Edward Codrington, K.C.B., at the Battle of Navarino, on the 20th October, 1827. It contained papers which stopped the shot from piercing the other side of the basket. *Lady Bouchier.*
- A Board, with a copper-plate, with an inscription punched on it, claiming the Bonin Islands for and on behalf of His Britannic Majesty George the IV., on June 14th, 1827. Brought from China by Commander E. J. Church, R.N. *Admiral A. P. Ryder.*
- A Medal struck in commemoration of Admiral Vernon's Victory and Capture of Portobello, in 1739. *Admiral C. R. Drinkwater Bethune, C.B.*
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